

May 19th, 1920.

©CIM 1627

JUN -7 1920

Main title

✓ THE ISLAND OF, YESTERDAY
SUMATRA, DUTCH WEST INDIES. ✓

1. We will never forget the day we arrived in Dolok Merengir, Sumatra. The lid was off the town and there were big doings.
2. They were celebrating the "hari-bazar" - a fortnightly holiday which usually occurred when the "ghost walked" at the Goodyear plantation.
3. Some of the coolies, is seemed, couldn't stand prosperity and were reckless with their pay.
4. The open-air show was filled to capacity and we were prepared to be initiated into some of the mysteries of Oriental entertainment - but this is what we really saw.
5. Although tired after the all night revelry, we started out for the Goodyear plantation the next morning.
6. A glass-like macadam road running through the planation, opened up the very heart of a primeval jungle.
7. Bands of coolies were cutting away the forests. These men were playing an important part in one of the greatest romances of the rubber industry.
8. Large bonfires, fed by the fallen timber and brush, blazed the trail of this gigantic work of reclamation.
9. At the edge of the jungle was a vast plain covered with an enormous amount of timber, the result of years of arduous labor, and thousands of tree stumps, sole survivors of the primeval jungle.
10. The presence of modern stump-pullers injected an atmosphere of civilization into this desolate-looking waste.

11. Soon newly-planted acres of young rubber trees came into view, stretching as far as the eye could see.
12. This vast undertaking was by no means an experiment. The older plantations on the Goodyear estate were already yielding the finest grade of pure white rubber.
13. A steam-roller "speeding" down the road convinced us that we were on American-owned property. That name which can be seen on almost every highway in God's Country was making things hum in this out-of-the-way island.
14. When we hit Main Street, for that's what it looked like, we were greeted by the village cut-ups.
15. This youngster had pretty old ideas.
16. In the public square, rice, the most important item of the coolies' daily menu, was being distributed to the employes of the plantation.
17. Lines of sanitray and clean-looking "Pondocks", housed the many natives.
18. Soap, we discovered, is now by no means an unknown article among these coolies.
19. At dawn the piercing echo of the native tom-tom disturbed our slumbers.
20. We received our first lesson in "rubbering". We learned that rubber is not obtained from the sap, but from a milky-white juice called "latex", which is found just under the bark.
21. Skilled coolies cut a shallow groove from which the latex slowly cozes. We noticed they were extremely careful not to cut deeper than the inner bark.
22. What surprised us most was the factory; a modern structure equipped with up-to-date machinery.

23. In a few hours it coagulated and formed a tough, elastic mass.
24. The slabs of rubber were so white and clean, they looked almost good enough to eat. And to think that they were to be transformed into automobile tires!
25. After passing through wringing-machines, the crepe-like sheets of rubber were hung up to dry.
26. The cases of pure rubber bespoke of the entiring efforts of the Goodyear Organization to render a still better service to civilization.
27. On the trip back, we were impressed by the monotonous solitude of the highlands with their scattered patches of cultivated rice, evidences of civilization's conquest of this distant island.
28. A large, smoke-crowned volcano, towering threateningly above the plateau, gave a thrilling touch to the landscape.
29. We returned to the clubhouse, the social center of the Europeans and Americans, wondering what ~~XXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXXXX~~ American enterprise would accomplish, next in Sumatra.
30. Sumatra's exploitation has been carried on slowly but effectively since its relations with such institutions as Goodyear, and before the close of many years its economic development and wealth will astound the commercial world.

This document is from the Library of Congress
“Motion Picture Copyright Descriptions Collection,
1912-1977”

Collections Summary:

The Motion Picture Copyright Descriptions Collection, Class L and Class M, consists of forms, abstracts, plot summaries, dialogue and continuity scripts, press kits, publicity and other material, submitted for the purpose of enabling descriptive cataloging for motion picture photoplays registered with the United States Copyright Office under Class L and Class M from 1912-1977.

Class L Finding Aid:

<https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mbrsmi/eadmbrsmi.mi020004>

Class M Finding Aid:

<https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mbrsmi/eadmbrsmi.mi021002>



National Audio-Visual Conservation Center
The Library of Congress